/ Student Senate Votes 31-2 To Renew N.S.A. Membership

by Carol Sowell

The Student Senate voted 31-2 Tuesday night to approve reaffiliation of the Tulane student body with the National Student Association. The issue will be voted on in a student referendum scheduled for Jan. 8-9.

In other action the Senate moved to include the "Friar Tuck College Club" under its Nov. 7 resolution urging student boycotts of local businesses catering to Tulane students and allegedly practicing racial discrimination.

Senate President Hank Harnage presented the motion regarding N.S.A. which read: "Be it resolved that the Student Senate approves reaffiliation with the National Student Association and recommends this decision to the Associated Student Body of Tulane University."

During the subsequent discussion Harnage led the case in favor of joining N.S.A. He turned the chair over to Andy Schwartz, vice-president for administration, who presided over the debate and voting on the issue.

Tulane's most recent affiliation with N.S.A. was during the 1965-66 school year. After several years of non-membership Tulane rejoined the organization in May, 1965, by a 8-1 vote of the then Student Council. The campaign to join N.S.A. was led by retiring Council president Tom Ries.

Tulane ended its membership in April, 1966, following a student body referendum. The vote to discontinue membership was 1606 to 620. The referendum followed charges by many students that N.S.A. was too politically oriented, too liberal in its social and political stands, and not providing enough services to students to justify the expenses of membership.

Voting Date Disputed

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The first objection raised to, Harnage's proposal was to his suggested date for the student body referendum on the N.S.A. affiliation. Jim Francis (A & S) said that holding the referendum Jan. 8-9, which will be Monday and Tuesday of "dead week," would preclude "getting any kind of reasonable vote." He maintained that students are deeply involved with studying for examinations and other academic assignments at

that time.

Harnage replied that it is difficult ever to find a good time for an election, and that "the first few days after Christmas vacation are a very active time." He added that "there are many students in the University Center (the principal polling place) during 'dead week' and exams."

Three Main Benefits

William Nolan (off-campus), chairman of a special Senate committee to consider possible affiliation with a national student organization, replied to requests for a more detailed explanation of what would be involved in joining N.S.A. He listed the three main benefits of membership as access to the files of N.S.A., student services available through the organization, and the opportunity for Tulane to "break out of a possible slump into provincialism." In earlier statements Harnage had listed the same three advantages.

On the first point, Nolan said that all member schools make reports about their activities and as a member "we can get any information we want about any member school from N.S.A."

N.S.A. also makes available publications about its decisions on all issues, which can be obtained at half the cost to non-member schools.

Among student services, Nolan listed travel, study and work tours, block booking for concerts, and reduced rates on charter flights to Europe (\$230 for a round-trip ticket).

Ernest Martin (Irby House), also a member of the committee, said that the "facts speak for themselves," and that "I see no reasons against joining N.S.A." Nolan said that the committee was in favor of joining N.S.A. but had not made any formal recommendation.

Political Representative?

Bill Bane (Academic Affairs Committee chairman) suggested that the issue was being rushed. He also said he felt that since the president of the Tulane student body (Harnage) was not elected on the basis of his political opinions, he would not actually be qualified to represent Tulane on political issues discussed by N.S.A. Harnage replied that discussion of affiliation had been going on all the current semester.

Jeff Yudin (University Center Board President) said that the political question was not pertinent, and that Tulane does not have to participate in N.S.A.'s political decisions. Richard Gonzales (off-campus) suggested that the Tulane president should not vote on political issues at N.S.A. meetings until he is elected here on the basis of his political opinions.

In February of this year it was disclosed that for several years N.S.A. had been secretly receiving financial aid from the Central Intelligence Agency. In the ensuing uproar N.S.A. claims to have severed all its ties with the intelligence agency. It says that all its governmental support is now open and public, and that it receives no funds from the C.I.A.

More Campus Concerns

Harnage asserted that since "the C.I.A. storm" N.S.A. has concentrated more on its national program and genuine campus concerns.

Yudin said that in 1965 the movement to leave the N.S.A. was conducted as a scare campaign and that since then "people realize that it is not a Communist front. The reason to belong to N.S.A. is that it is the only national organization that effectively repre-

sents student interests." The federal government and professional organizations interested in what college students are thinking and doing turn to N.S.A., Yudin added.

Harnage informed the Senate that the N.S.A. congress meets once a year and regional meetings throughout the year. "There is a heavy bureaucracy in the national office in Washington, but I feel that Tulane can take a leading part in the national operations." he said.

Confinued

Decisions Not Binding

Asked how binding N.S.A.'s decisions are on individual schools, Harnage said that minority reports are included in all N.S.A. publications, which also state that the views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the entire student bodies of all schools.

Francis asked the president what possible drawbacks might be involved. Harnage mentioned his concern over how well N.S.A. represents member schools throughout the year, but he said that attempts at improving communications were being made. Pat Griffith, vice-president of the student body of Dominican College who attended the N.S.A. congress last summer said that the power is centered in big universities and in the Midwest. Schools' votes are assigned on the basis of the size of the population of the student

Schwartz called for a vote on the resolution, and it was approved 31-2, with two abstentions.

Harnage resumed the chair and thanked the Senate for approving the proposal, and asked the Senators to contact their constituents before the January referendum, to "prove that the Student Senate is a representative voice of the student body."

Membership Club

Michael Kliks (Graduate School) read an advertisement in last week's HULLABALOO for Friar Tuck, "New Orleans' Newest College Club," at 6233 S. Claiborne, which offered "complimentary membership to all college students."

Kliks said that Friar Tuck does not offer membership to Negroes and suggested that this establishment should be included under the boycott resolution passed earlier in the year regarding Bud's Seafood Restaurant. Harnage read the resolution and saft that this case would come under its ruling.

This week Roy J. Anselmo, Jr., owner of Friar Tuck, promised that in the future "every Tulane student" will be welcomed at his club, regardless of race. (His letter appears on page 6.)

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